

# Serving the national network

Wisconsin handles a surprising amount of “overhead” traffic which moves through the state. It neither originates nor terminates in Wisconsin. Over 75 million tons of overhead cargo in Wisconsin brings both opportunities and challenges to the state.

## Chicago-Twin Cities is a key overhead freight route

Much of the state’s overhead traffic is concentrated on the Chicago-Twin Cities route, including the NAFTA corridor.

About 10% of all tons moving in Wisconsin are overhead. However, analyses and maps by the U.S. DOT show that much of the overhead tonnage may be concentrated on the

I-39/90/94 corridor between Chicago and the Twin Cities.

One-third of the tonnage moving on Wisconsin railroads is overhead. The state has four railroads - Burlington Northern Santa Fe, Canadian National, Canadian Pacific, and Union Pacific - serving the Chicago-Twin Cities corridor.

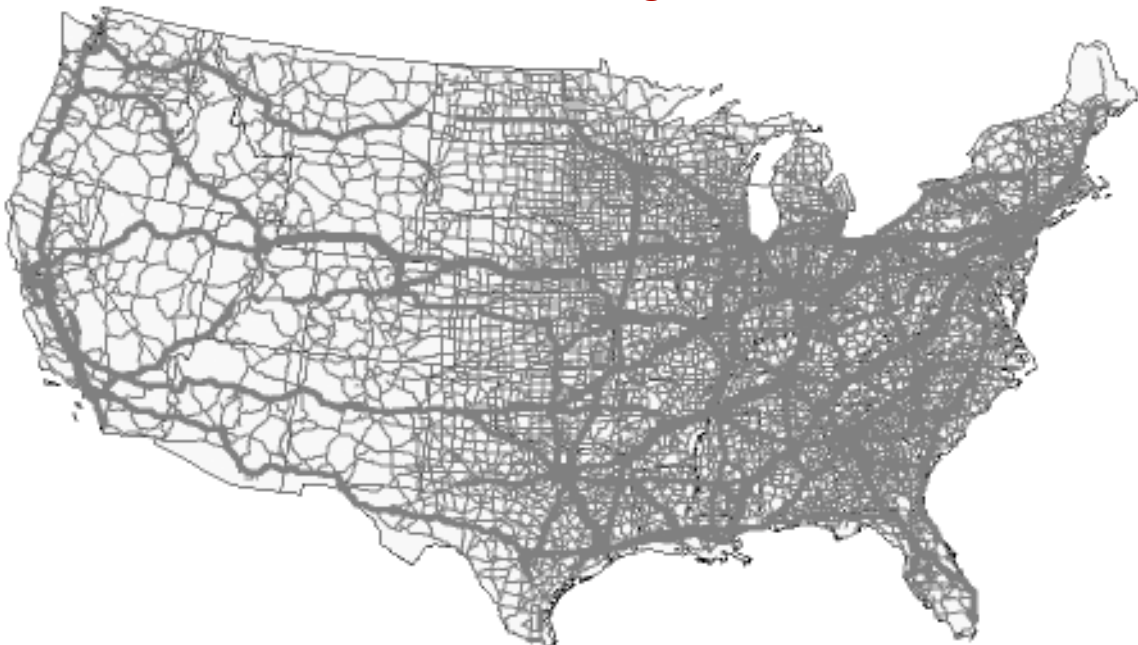
Significant overhead freight and the presence of major carriers provides shippers with good access to the national network. However, overhead traffic may stress the capacity of infrastructure. Wisconsin’s freight tonnage, including overhead freight, is expected to increase by more than 70% by 2020, according to WisDOT planning studies.

## Wisconsin freight tons by mode & geography, 1996

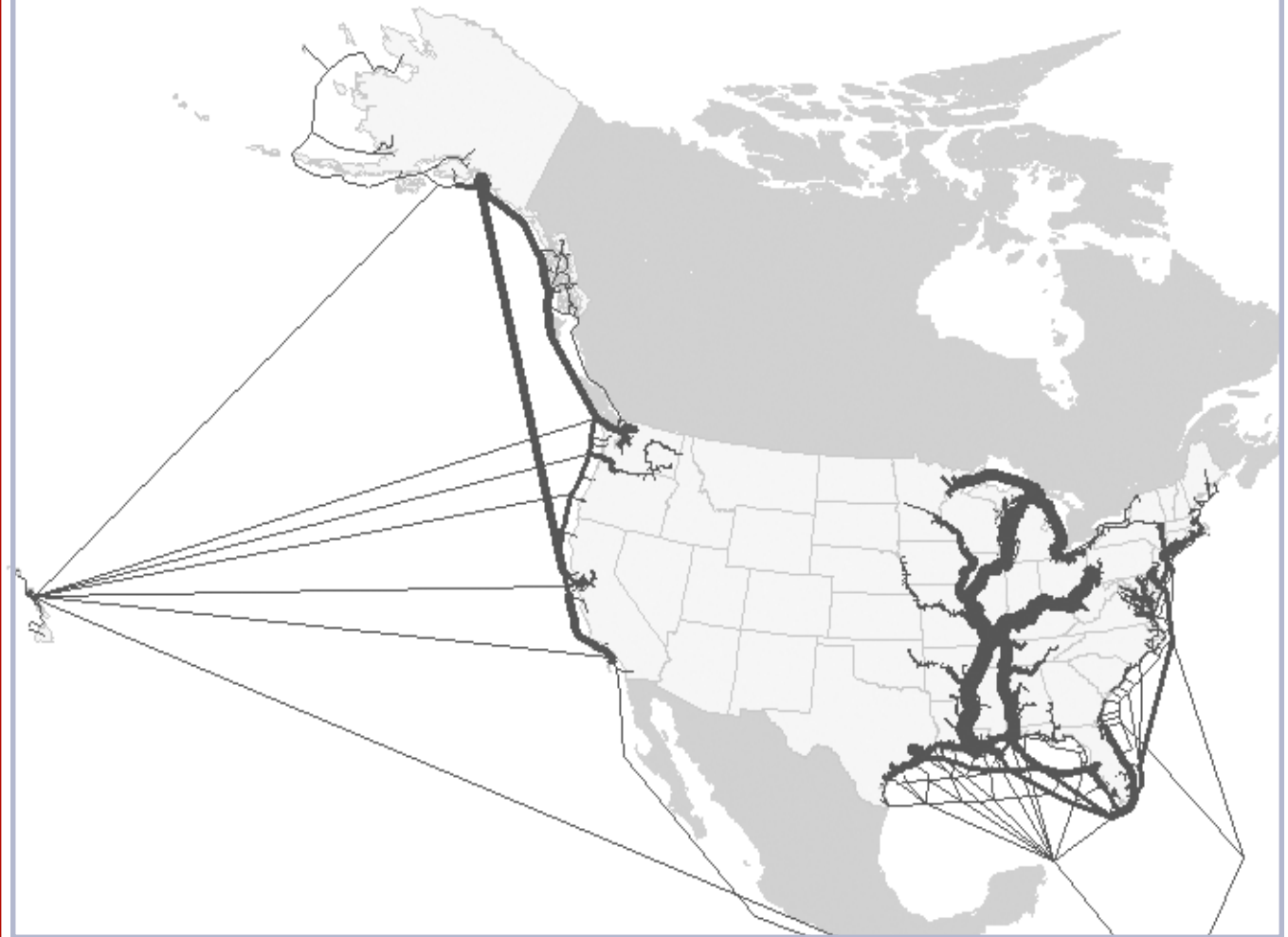
Mode	Originated or terminated in Wisconsin	Overhead
Air	92,200	0
Rail	102,634,200	48,320,600
Truck	238,257,300	26,940,500
Water	39,358,300	0

Source: Reebe Associates for WisDOT

## The domestic truck freight network



## The domestic water freight network



### Ports are at the junction of the inland system

Wisconsin's ports are placed at the junction of the nation's two inland waterway systems of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River.

This unique placement allows good options for shippers moving bulk goods, especially coal, minerals, petroleum products and agricultural products such as grain.

### Midwest Express keeps hub at Milwaukee

Milwaukee based Midwest Express Airlines uses General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA) as its primary hub. With its subsidiary, Skyway Airlines, Midwest Express served almost 2.1 million passengers in 2000 at GMIA.

Although the airport does not serve as a major national hub, GMIA was ranked #1 for

"Ease of Connections" in Conde Nast Traveler's 1999 Reader's Choice Awards.

Midwest Express is not the only airline to call Wisconsin home. Air Wisconsin, Inc., is a regional carrier based in Appleton. In all, over a dozen airlines provide service to any of the nine commercial service airports in Wisconsin.